

Brunswick Medina Co. Sept. 21 '56

My dear Friend —

I have been thinking a long time to drop you a line of explanation of certain "matters and things" in the West, but have postponed doing so from week to week, thinking every week would be our last in this State and then I would be able to say what was our new field.

Yet we have been held here far beyond our original intentions, and now we see no way of leaving before the last of Oct. — You will never forget the ten thousand trials and vexations with which we were beset in '39-'40-'41 in Mass. — We are living those trials over again in Ohio today — To be sure they do not annoy and dishearten us who have passed through them once, as they did originally — But only Stephen and myself were fully in that ordeal — The other abolitionists of the West who <sup>now</sup> bear the heat and burden of the day <sup>here</sup> did not comprehend our work then — Some had not yet entered the ranks, and others, who had, were "disgusted with Eastern quarrels". — Even B. P. Jones of Philadelphia was almost "Whittiered," and Lizzie was not then born into the cause.

The Liberty party priests and Demagogues have left no stone unturned to destroy the influence of the disunionists. No scandal is too mean for them to resort to — Hence there is a difficulty in raising funds, and there is also a lack of that enthusiastic cooperation which otherwise would be given. This state of things has kept us here when we had intended to be looking after the Standard in New York. We have done comparatively nothing for the



Standard and Liberator. but have bent our entire energies to bring the subscription of the Bugle up to sixteen hundred, the number necessary to its support — It is now up to some fourteen hundred and fifty — Before we leave we think the requisite number will have been obtained, and our friends of the Bugle will not be confident that the Standard will kill off the life of the Western Movement, the Bugle. This desperation to which the third party is driven, which is to some of our good friends so distressing, is to us the most delightful symptom of all — And as the party here is up for sale it will be in our way but little longer.

Indeed, considering it is just before the biennial elections for the State and Congress, I am astonished at our success. — None of the political parties can create any enthusiasm — And thousands are coming fully into the disunion ranks on principle, while thousands are cursing the Union while they support it. I have never seen such a change ~~was~~ wrought in so few months — The action of the government within the last few months has, undoubtedly, very much contributed to it, by opening our way to the ears of the prejudiced — — — The third party vote may be as large <sup>here</sup> or larger than ever heretofore — Many Methodists will vote for Davis because he is a priest of their order. But nothing can save them from the condemnation of all the enlightened as fully pro slavery — — Saml. Brook is making arrangements to bring several young lecturers into the field this winter — They will be able to do a good work, I trust — I regret, however, that ~~there is~~ no one of <sup>them of</sup> ripe experience — Still I have full confidence



It will be safe for us to leave in Oct. — — Then we  
want to give ourselves to the ~~circulation~~<sup>circulation</sup> of the Stan-  
dard — The question is, What Field shall we take.  
When we came here, and thought to leave in Sept., we  
designed to proceed directly to N. Y. — We still have  
great anxiety for that State. But Western N. Y. is  
sometimes so muddy in the winter that little can be  
done there for several months — It may be so this  
winter — Will it be best to go there and then leave if  
necessary — Or is Mass. the best place for us — Since  
the crushing of the <sup>182</sup> tariff can't the cotton men be  
reached, and made to see that this tariff is only <sup>one of</sup> a series  
of similar outrages which have been accumulating for  
the last fifty years, and that they are the natural fruit  
of the "Compromise"? Can't they, or the common people  
rather, be made to feel the humiliation of the north,  
her servile and base condition, and that she has thus  
gone into captivity because she ~~admits~~<sup>admits</sup> captivity — In  
a word, is Mass. the best place for concentrating a  
strong force this winter and by flooding the Legislature  
with remonstrances against the Union, commencing the last  
agitation which shall be needful to cut the cord that  
binds her to her sin and curse. — A large force concen-  
trated there this autumn and winter might, perhaps, do the  
thing — But if N. Y. is the place, then I hope as full a  
force as may be will be gathered there. I hope, however,  
we shall go where we can collect Stephen's salary, as  
we have done up to nothing by way of collections this  
summer — We do not like to draw on the treasury and



his pay this year, as we were compelled to last, with the  
exception of <sup>some</sup> \$200.00 —

You may recollect it was not my intention last win-  
ter to lecture this summer, but to rest and regain my  
original vigor — The Mexican war changed my deter-  
mination — And now, notwithstanding we have had  
constant hard work on our hands, we are both far  
stronger than we were last spring. Indeed I am  
quite as vigorous, I think, as when I first entered  
the field — Since the cool weather commenced I am  
set right up again, and feel equal to almost any task.

Will you write me at Columbus when we are to be  
the 12 of Oct. — Stephen has written Wendell within a  
few days, and has said something in relation to our next  
winter's field —

Yours most truly A. A. F.

paid 10  
Paid

Maria W. Chapman

Boston

Mass.

9/10/16

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1846



Ms. A. 9. 2. 22. 89

There has been a great deal of talk about the  
even to many of our former admirers —  
from people probably see something of the  
affairs in the paper.